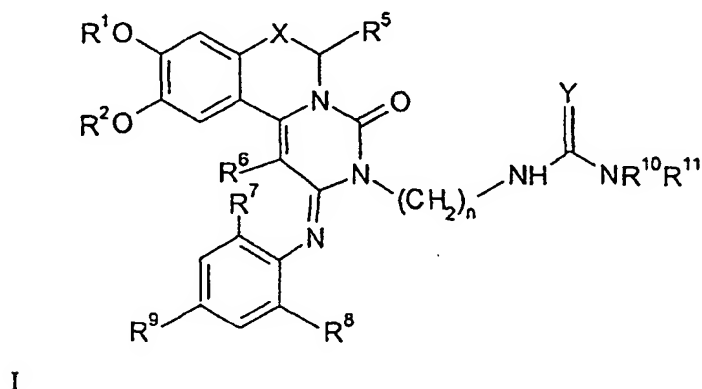


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): A process for preparing a compound of general formula I:



wherein

each of R^1 and R^2 independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{2-7} acyl group;
 R^5 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{2-3} alkenyl or C_{2-3} alkynyl group;
 R^6 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6}) alkylamino or C_{2-7} acylamino group;
each of R^7 and R^8 independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{2-7} acyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl; and
 R^9 represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{2-7} acyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group;
X represents a group CR^3R^4 , wherein each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group;
each of R^{10} and R^{11} independently represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or phenyl group;

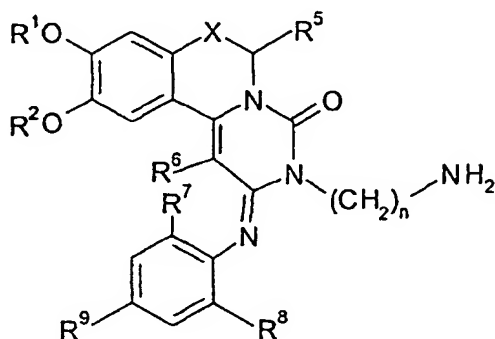
Y represents an oxygen atom or a group CHNO₂, NCN, NH or NNO₂;

n is an integer from 2 to 4;

or a salt thereof,

the process comprising:

(a) reacting a compound of general formula II:



II

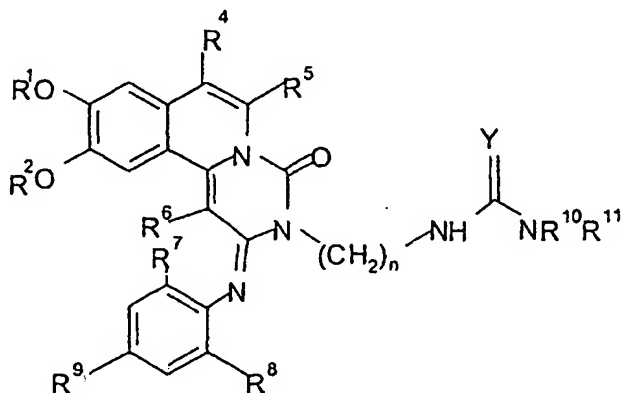
wherein R¹, R², R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, X and n are as defined for general formula I, with an amine-reactive compound selected from the group consisting of compound capable of reacting at the primary amine group of the aminoalkyl moiety $-(CH_2)_n-NH_2$, (i) a cyanate salt, (ii) an isocyanate of the formula R¹¹-NCO wherein R¹¹ is as defined for formula I, (iii) an N-C₁₋₃ alkyl- or N-C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-1-methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the formula CH₃SC(=CHNO₂)NR¹⁰R¹¹ wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I, (iv) a compound of the formula CH₃SC(=NH)NR¹⁰R¹¹ or a salt thereof wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I, (v) a compound of the formula CH₃SC(=NCN)NR¹⁰R¹¹ or a salt thereof wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I, and (vi) 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothioureia, to form a compound of general formula I; or

(b) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula $R^{10}R^{11}NH$ wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or

(c) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and treating the resulting compound with trifluoroacetic acid, to form a compound of formula I; or

(d) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula $R^{10}R^{11}NH$ wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or

(e) when X in general-formula I represents a group CR^3R^4 , wherein R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, R^4 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group, and R^5 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group, hydrogenating a compound of general-formula III:



III

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , Y and n are as defined for general-formula I;
and

~~(c) optionally converting a compound of general formula I so formed into another compound of general formula I.~~

Claim 17 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in ~~general formula I~~, when Y represents an oxygen atom and each of R¹⁰ and R¹¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of ~~general formula II~~ is reacted with sodium cyanate.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in ~~general formula I~~, when Y represents an oxygen atom, R¹⁰ represents a hydrogen atom and R¹¹ represents a C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl or phenyl group, a compound of ~~general formula II~~ is reacted with an isocyanate of the ~~general formula~~ R¹¹NCO.

Claim 19 (original): A process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the isocyanate is isopropylisocyanate or phenylisocyanate.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in ~~general formula I~~, when Y represents CHNO₂, R¹⁰ represents a hydrogen atom and R¹¹ represents a C₁₋₃ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group, a compound of ~~general formula II~~ is reacted with an N-C₁₋₃ alkyl- or N-C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the ~~general formula~~ CH₃SC(=CHNO₂)NR¹⁰R¹¹.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the compound of ~~general formula II~~ is reacted with N-methyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in ~~general formula I~~, when Y represents CHNO₂, a compound of ~~general formula II~~ is reacted first with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting

compound is then reacted with an amine of the general-formula $R^{10}R^{11}NH$, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general-formula I.

Claim 23 (original): A process as claimed in claim 22, wherein the amine is isopropylamine or dimethylamine.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general-formula I, Y represents NH, a compound of general-formula II is reacted with a compound of general-formula $CH_3SC(=NH)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general-formula 1.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general-formula I, Y represents NCN, a compound of general-formula II is reacted with a compound of general-formula $CH_3SC(=NCN)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general-formula I.

Claims 26-50 (cancelled).

Claim 51 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein independently or in any compatible combination:

each of R^1 and R^2 independently represent a C_{1-6} alkyl;

each of R^3 and R^4 represents a hydrogen atom;

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom;

R^6 represents a hydrogen atom;

each of R^7 and R^8 independently represent a C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^9 represents a halogen atom or a methyl or acetyl group;

Y represents an oxygen atom or a group $CHNO_2$; and

n is 2.

Claim 52 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 51, wherein each of R¹ and R² represents a C₁₋₄ alkyl group; and each of R⁷ and R⁸ represents a methyl, ethyl or isopropyl group.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the compound of general-formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-(*N*-carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[*N*-(*N'*-isopropylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[*N*-[1-(*N'*-methyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[*N*-[1-(*N*-isopropyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[*N*-[1-(*N'*, *N'*-dimethyl-2-nitroethenamine)]-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[*N*-(*N'*-phenylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-2-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[*N*-(*N'*-nitro)-2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-[*N*-(*N'*-Cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2-methylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-2-(2,6-diisopropylphenylimino)-9,10-dimethoxy-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-4-aminobutyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one; and

3-[*N*-(*N'*-Cyano-*N''*-methyl)-2-guanidinoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one.

Claim 54 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cyanate salt in (a) is sodium cyanate.

Claim 55 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, *Y* represents NNO_2 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represents a hydrogen atom, and a compound of formula II is reacted with 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothiourea.

Claim 56 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, *Y* represents CHNO_2 , a compound of formula II is reacted with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula $\text{R}^{10}\text{R}^{11}\text{NH}$, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I.

Claim 57 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NH, R^{10} and R^{11} each represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of formula II is reacted with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and the resulting compound is then treated with trifluoroacetic acid.

Claim 58 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NCN, a compound of formula II is reacted with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula $R^{10}R^{11}NH$ wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I.